



Beaverton Police Department

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Chief Geoff Spalding



NEWS RELEASE

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Three Flags Traffic Safety Campaign

Officers from the Beaverton Police Department will again join law enforcement agencies throughout Oregon in the Three Flags Seatbelt Enforcement Campaign, that will begin Monday, May 20, 2013 and will continue through Sunday, June 2, 2013. The focus of this campaign is on seatbelt use and minors riding in open pickup beds. The goal of this campaign is to reduce traffic injuries and deaths by increased education and enforcement.

Oregon law does not allow anyone under the age of 18 to ride in the open bed of a motor vehicle. There are specific exceptions for this law and they can be found in the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 811.205. The danger for anyone who rides in the open bed of a motor vehicle is being ejected if involved in a collision. Your chances of surviving even a low speed collision are greatly reduced if you are ejected from the vehicle.

Oregon law requires that there be "proper use" of the entire seatbelt system; lap belt placed low across the hips and a shoulder belt over the collarbone and crossing the center of the chest. Belts should be free of slack and lying flat with no twists or knots. If necessary, slide the attachment on the door post up or down to fit the size of you or your passenger. Shoulder belts should not be placed under the arm or behind the back – this can cause serious internal injuries or ejection in the event of a crash.

The Beaverton Police Department will continue to strive to keep our citizens safe, reminding you that car seats, seat belts and following the posted speed limit are an effective way to protect you and your family. Our enforcement efforts will be on-going as we work with the community to save lives.

Three Flag Blitz campaigns are funded through grants received from the Oregon Chiefs of Police and the Oregon Department of Transportation.

<http://www.oregonlaws.org/ors/811.205>

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